

Concealed Carry Policy for State-Owned and Leased Buildings

June 28, 2013

Kansas's new concealed carry statutes go into effect Monday, July 1, 2013. Pursuant to the provisions of the law, concealed carry is permitted in any state or municipal building "unless such building has adequate security measures to ensure that no weapons are permitted to be carried into such building" The law further provides that a state or municipal building means "a building owned or leased by such public entity." Although there are opportunities for the state to notify the Attorney General of an exemption to prohibit concealed carry until January 1, 2014, the Department of Administration is not seeking an exemption for state owned or leased buildings.

The Department of Administration interprets the definition of a building leased by the state to include free standing buildings in which the State is the sole lessee and/or tenant. The Department is seeking guidance from the Attorney General as to whether the definition excludes leased premises within a building where the State is not the sole lessee (ex. Board of Pharmacy in 800 SW Jackson). In the meantime, in order to ensure compliance with the law, the Department has filed an exemption for all such premises.

Agencies located in State owned or leased buildings that do not currently have adequate security measures as described in HB 2052 and/or meet any of the exceptions therein should remove any signs prohibiting concealed carry. Agencies located in premises within building where the State is not the sole lessee should replace any current signs with signs found at the following link: <http://ag.ks.gov/docs/default-source/documents/required-signage-for-exempted-state-or-municipal-buildings.pdf?sfvrsn=2>.

For those licensed employees who are permitted by law and who choose to carry concealed weapons in non-exempt State buildings, firearms must be completely concealed at all times and must always be in the immediate control of the employee. Employees may not leave their firearms in or on their desks or workstations or in purses/bags or other storage containers left behind in their offices. No displaying of firearms will be tolerated. Employees who visit locations other than state owned or leased facilities must abide the concealed carry laws and relevant policies regarding the transportation and carrying of weapons.